

The Lord's Day

February 2, 2025 at 10:30 AM

We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.

As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.

Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

Where is death? Seek it in Christ, for it exists no longer. It did exist, and now death is dead. O Life, O Death of death! Be of good heart, death will die in us also. What has taken place in our Head will also take place in his members. Death will die in us also.

Augustine of Hippo

Prelude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Hebrews 2:14-17

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

Invocation

Hymn

In Christ Alone

Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross as Jesus died,

The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground, His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

We embrace Christ through His Word

The Promise of God

John 5:25-29

DE Gus DeFord

²⁵ “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

The Fulfillment of God's Promise (Responsive)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

¹⁴ **For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.**

¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁶ **For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.**

¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

¹⁸ **Therefore encourage one another with these words.**

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 87

What are we to believe concerning the resurrection?

We are to believe that at the last day there shall be a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust: when they that are then found alive shall in a moment be changed; and the selfsame bodies of the dead which were laid in the grave, being then again united to their souls forever, shall be raised up by the power of Christ. The bodies of the just, by the Spirit of Christ, and by virtue of his resurrection as their head, shall be raised in power, spiritual, incorruptible, and made like to his glorious body; and the bodies of the wicked shall be raised up in dishonor by him, as an offended judge.

Hymn No. 286

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

Regent Square

Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell.
Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares:
“Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares.”
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with pow’r;
All hell’s minions may assemble, but cannot withstand his hour.
He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!

Doubt may lift his head to murmur, scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
But the truth proclaims a wonder thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!

We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory;
Sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free.
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King!

We acknowledge God’s blessings

The Prayers of God’s People and the Lord’s Prayer (**in unison**)

RE Jeff Soule

We respond in gratitude for God’s blessing

The Giving of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731) and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We are nourished by God’s Word and Sacrament

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:50-55

Pew Bible pg. 962

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

Sermon

“We Are the Champions”

Pastor Ceselsky

Sermon Outline can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper

We respond to God’s Grace

Hymn No. 521

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, *by grace I will* in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (**Hymnal, pg. 740**)

Danish

Postlude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Please be seated and quietly reflect upon the Lord’s grace during the Postlude.

Announcements

We thank Mrs. Wendy Wickham for playing the organ for us today!

Annual Reports are available in the narthex – please only take 1 per family.

Please join us for a congregational breakfast NEXT Sunday at 9 AM. At 9:30 we will have a video call with John & Gwen Cicone in Tanzania.

Our annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for NEXT Sunday, February 9. At the meeting we will review the annual reports, receive the budget for 2025, and vote on officers. The following candidates have been nominated by the congregation, examined and approved for election by the Session: for the office of Ruling Elder: Mr. Riley B. Franklin; and for the office of Deacon: Mr. Jonathan Frank. (Ms. Judi Mason has also been nominated by the congregation and approved by the Session to serve on the Board of Deaconesses.)

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Candy Short and her family as Candy's sister went home to be with the Lord this past week.
2. Please be in prayer for Stuart Jones and his family as he awaits a very risky procedure to be performed in mid-March.
3. Please be in prayer for Mary Lou Wickham. Please pray that the Lord would provide wisdom to those caring for Mary Lou on how best to proceed with her present issues.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for Carole McQuay as she recovers from having a MOSE procedure on her scalp. The procedure went well but it will be 3 weeks until she can have a follow-up with her doctor.
5. Please continue to be in prayer for Buckey Pearre as he continues to struggle with issues regarding his lungs. Pray as well for Nancy as she cares for him in this time.
6. Please continue to be in prayer for Dr. Dean as he recovers from his knee surgery.
7. Please be in prayer for Aisquith members, family members, and friends of the Aisquith Community who are currently struggling with various illnesses and other physical and emotional issues.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY:	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16 & 17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Deacon's Meeting - Library
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15 & 16 (Please prepare pages 49-52 – Huldah)
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15 & 16 (Please prepare pages 100-106)
NEXT Sunday	9:00 AM	Congregational Breakfast
	9:30 AM	Video Call with John & Gwen Cicone
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Annual Congregational Meeting

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

Deacons: Andrew Bell, Gus DeFord, Ken Schumann (President), and Rick Willis

Deaconesses: Christine Clark, Debbie DeFord, Fran Oswinkle, & Jeanne Williams (Moderator)

Sermon Notes

Date: February 2, 2025

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:50-55

Sermon Title: “We Are the Champions”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: In Christ, the Christian’s victory over death is secure.

Main Point 1: The Body’s Problem. (v. 50)

Main Point 2: The Bible’s Solution. (vv. 51-53)

Point 1: When?

Point 2: “Changed.”

Main Point 3: The Believer’s Triumph. (vv. 54-55)

Point 1: In Christ.

Point 2: In Us.